

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001147

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06K 9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06T, G06K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ, INSPEC, TDB, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	CH CHENYANG; PRINCE JERRY L: Gradient vector flow: a new external force for snakes. Proc IEEE Comput Soc Conf Comput Vision Pattern Recognit; Proceedings of the IEEE Computer Society Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition -1997 - IEEE, Los Alamitos, CA, USA, ISSN 1063-6919, pages 66-71. See section 3.1; section 3.2 and abstract. --	1-3,5-6
X	CHENYANG XU; PRINCE J L: Snakes, shapes, and gradient vector flow. IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, March 1998, IEEE, USA, ISSN 1057-7149, VOL-7, NR 3, pages 359-369. See section III.B and abstract --	1-3,5-6

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

12-10-2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>CSEKE, I: A fast segmentation scheme for white blood cell images. Proceedings. 11th IAPR International Conference on Pattern Recognition. Vol.III. Conference C; Image, Speech and Signal Analysis, 1992, IEEE Comput. Soc. Press, Los Alamitos CA, USA, ISBN 0-8186-2920-7, pages 530-533. See whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1-6
A	<p>ELMOATAZ, A, REVENU, M, PORQUET, C: Segmentation and classification of various types of cells in cytological images. International Conference on Image Processing and its Applications (Conf. Publ. No.354), 1992, IEE, London, UK, ISBN 0-85296-543-5, pages 385-388. See whole document</p> <p>---</p>	1-6
A	<p>US 5687251 A (ERLER, B S ET AL), 11 November 1997 (11.11.1997), abstract</p> <p>---</p>	1-6
A	<p>WO 0182216 A1 (INTERNATIONAL REMOTE IMAGING SYSTEMS, INC), 1 November 2001 (01.11.2001), page 8, line 10 - page 9, line 5, figures 3A,3B, abstract</p> <p>---</p>	1-6
A	<p>US 20020186874 A1 (PRICE, J H ET AL), 12 December 2002 (12.12.2002), paragraphs [0005]; [0048]-[0052]; [0086]-[0090]; [0114]-[0115] and abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	1-6

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Information on patent family members

03/09/2004

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US	5687251	A	11/11/1997	EP	0610916	A	17/08/1994

WO	0182216	A1	01/11/2001	AU	5729901	A	07/11/2001
				CA	2377602	A	01/11/2001
				CN	1383522	T	04/12/2002
				EP	1301894	A	16/04/2003
				US	20020031255	A	14/03/2002
				US	20040126008	A	01/07/2004

US	20020186874	A1	12/12/2002	US	5548661	A	20/08/1996
				US	5790692	A	04/08/1998
				US	5856665	A	05/01/1999
